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COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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"THE Mutiny amongst the LOCAL MILITIA which broke out at Ely, was *fortunately* suppressed on Wednesday, by the arrival of *four squadrons* of the GERMAN LEGION CAVALRY from Bury, under the command of General Auckland. Five of the ring-leaders were tried by a Court Martial, and *sentenced to receive 500 lashes each*, part of which punishment *they received on Wednesday*, and a part was remitted. A *stoppage for their knapsacks* was the ground of complaint that excited this *mutinous* spirit, which occasioned the men to surround their officers, and demand what *they deemed* their arrears. The first division of the German Legion halted yesterday at Newmarket on their return to Bury."—COURIER (ministerial) News-paper, Saturday 24th of June, 1809.

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SUMMARY OF POLITICS.

LOCAL MILITIA AND GERMAN LEGION.—See the Motto, English reader! See the Motto, and then do pray recollect all that has been said about the way, in which Buonaparté raises his soldiers.—Well done, Lord Castlereagh! This is just what it was thought your plan would produce. Well said, Mr. Huskisson! It really was not without reason that you dwelt, with so much earnestness, upon the great utility of the *foreign* troops, whom Mr. Wardle appeared to think of no utility at all. Poor gentleman! he little imagined how a great genius might find useful employment for such troops. He little imagined, that they might be made the means of compelling Englishmen to submit to that sort of *discipline*, which is so conducive to the producing in them a disposition to defend the country, at the risk of their lives. Let Mr. Wardle look at my motto, and then say whether the German soldiers are of *no use*.—*Five hundred lashes each!* Aye, that is right! Flog them; flog them; flog them! They deserve it, and a great deal more. They deserve a flogging at every meal-time. "Lash them daily, lash them duly." What, shall the rascals dare to *mutiny*, and that, too, when the German Legion is so near at hand! Lash them, lash them, lash them! They *deserve* it. O, yes; they merit a double-tailed cat. Base dogs! What, mutiny for the sake of the *price of a knapsack*? Lash them! flog them! Base rascals! Mutiny for the price of a goat's skin; and, then, upon the appearance of the *German Soldiers*, they take a flogging as quietly as so many trunks of trees!—I do not know what sort of a place ELY is; but I really should like to know how the inhabitants looked one another in the face, while this scene was exhibiting in their town. I should like to have been able to see their

faces, and to hear their observations to each other, at the time.—This occurrence at home will, one would hope, teach *the loyal* a little caution in speaking of the means, which Napoleon employs (or, rather, which they say he employs), in order to get together and to discipline his Conscripts. There is scarcely any one of these loyal persons, who has not, at various times, cited the *hand-cuffings*, and other means of *force*, said to be used in drawing out the young men of France; there is scarcely one of the loyal, who has not cited these means as a proof, a complete proof, that the people of France *hate Napoleon and his government*, assist with *reluctance* in his wars, and would *fain see another revolution*. I hope, I say, that the loyal will, hereafter, be more cautious in drawing such conclusions, now that they see, that our "gallant defenders" not only require physical restraint, in certain cases, but even a little blood drawn from their backs, and that, too, with the aid and assistance of *German* troops. Yes; I hope the loyal will be a little more upon their guard in drawing conclusions against Napoleon's popularity. At any rate, every time they do, in future, burst out in execrations against the French for suffering themselves to be "chained together and forced, at the point of the bayonet, to do military duty," I shall just re-publish the passage, which I have taken for a motto to the present sheet.—I have heard of some other pretty little things of the sort; but, I rather choose to take my instance (and a very complete one it is) from a public print, notoriously under the sway of the ministry.

KING'S SPEECH.—On Wednesday, the 21st of June, the parliament was prorogued, with a Speech, delivered by Commission; on which Speech, after inserting it, I shall offer a few observations.—"MY LORDS, AND GENTLEMEN, We are commanded by his Majesty to acquaint

“you, that his Majesty has great satisfaction in being enabled, by the state of the *public business*, to release you from your laborious attendance in Parliament. —His Majesty doubts not that on your return into your respective Counties, you will carry with you a disposition to inculcate, both by instruction and example, a *spirit of attachment to those established laws and that happy Constitution* which it has ever been his Majesty's anxious wish to support and to maintain, and upon which, *under Providence*, depend the welfare and prosperity of this kingdom. —GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, We have it in command from his Majesty to thank you for the liberal provision which you have made for the services of the present year; and to express the satisfaction which his Majesty derives from your having been enabled to provide for those services without any *great or immediate* addition to the burthens upon his People. —His Majesty particularly commands us to acknowledge your prompt attention to his wishes, respecting an increased provision for the *poorer Clergy*; an object in the highest degree interesting to his Majesty's feelings, and deserving the favourable consideration of Parliament. —MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN, The *atrocious and unparalleled* act of violence and treachery by which the Ruler of France attempted to surprize and to enslave the Spanish nation, while it has excited in Spain a determined and *unconquerable resistance* against the usurpation and tyranny of the French government, has, at the same time, awakened in other nations of Europe a determination to resist, by a new effort, the continued and encroaching encroachments on their safety and independence. —Although the uncertainty of all human events, and the vicissitudes attendant upon war, forbid too confident an expectation of a satisfactory issue to the present struggle against the common enemy of Europe, his Majesty commands us to congratulate you upon the *splendid and important success* which has recently crowned the arms of the emperor of Austria, under the able and distinguished conduct of his Imperial Highness the Archduke Charles. —To the efforts of Europe for its own deliverance, his Majesty has directed us to assure you, that he is determined to continue his most strenuous assistance and support, con-

vinced that you will agree with him in considering that every exertion for the re-establishment of the independence and security of other nations, is no less conducive to the true interests than it is becoming the character and honour of Great Britain.” —The first observation that presents itself here is, that the king should have been advised to speak about the “*public business*” of the session, and to allude to particular parts of it, but to say not one word about that business, which had occupied above *nine tenths* of the time of the whole session, and compared to which, in point of importance, all the other business is a single sand compared to the sands composing a mountain. Why, the *business* of the past session consisted *solely* of the affairs of the Duke of York, Lord Castlereagh, Henry Wellesley, the *Tinman's Prosecutor*, and the *Irish Excisemen*. These, and the discussions arising out of them, made the *whole* of the business of the session. There was no other part of it that the nation paid the smallest attention to; that it either did care, or ought to care any thing about. And yet, as to *this business*, which has given rise to public meetings in every part of the kingdom, not one word is said in the Speech. —I like to see this, however, because it shews so clearly what it is desirable that the people should clearly see. —To make up for this omission, there is, however, a *whole paragraph* of the Speech devoted to the provision, which has, during this session, been made for the *poorer Clergy*, and which provision did, I verily believe, pass, because it was a matter which hardly any one thought worth his notice. The propriety of such provision, at any time, and especially at a time like this, appears to me to be, at best, very questionable. Let the list of *non-residents* be laid before the public; let the people see how few of those who enjoy the *wealth*, do the *duties*, of the Church, and then they will be able to judge of the justice of providing for the “*poorer clergy*” out of the earnings of the people. Let the benefices be properly distributed, and there will be no *poor* clergy; but, while one man has heaped upon him what ought to go to the providing for four or five of his brethren, is it any wonder, that there are some of the clergy poor? What would you think of a man, who should give the whole of his income to a part of his children and send the rest to the parish? You need not answer the question; but, you know that there is

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a law for the compelling of such a man to keep these cast-off children. They are not to be thrown upon the parish while he has the means of supporting them. It would be scandalous if they were; and what are we to think of a system, which gives two or three benefices to one man, while there are hundreds of the profession without any benefice at all?—But, besides the injustice of drawing upon the people in this way, let us mark a little the consequences. This provision is made for the professed purpose of assisting to support the poorer-clergy; but, what will it do? Why, by making provision for them in *this way*, there will be the less necessity for giving them *a share in the benefices*; and, of course, there will be the more to be bestowed for *purposes* such as have been too much talked of lately to need a particular description in this place.—Well, then, here is a large sum of money granted, not, in fact, to add to the means of providing for the poorer clergy, but to the *patronage* of the ministry. In short, it appears to me to be a hundred thousand pounds (I believe that is the sum) given to those who have parliamentary influence. Suppose, for instance, there are *nine* livings in the whole, six rectories and three prebendaries, and that there are just as many clergymen as livings; but that the whole of the livings are given to *four* of them; and that one of them has *three*, as in the case of our Winchester Bishop's brother-in-law, MR. POULTER, who is rector of *four* parishes united into two livings, a prebend of Winchester, and Arch-Deacon, I believe, of the diocese. The consequence must be, that five out of the nine clergymen must go dig, or starve, or, at best, must perform for a starving salary, that duty for which the other three enjoy the income. Now mark, one has *three* livings, three have *two* livings each, and five have no living at all, and are either curates or beggars. Well, come, let us provide for these men; let us make provision for these "poorer clergy." A sum is granted: provision is made; and what is the consequence? Why, when the three-flocked pastor dies, the ministry distribute his three livings amongst the three two-flocked pastors, or, if they have not interest enough, they are given to a youth of greater interest, who, as it were for the nonce, has had, agreeably to the declaration which is made at the ordination, *a call* to take upon him the cure of souls. Now, if this "*provision*," as it is called, were not made, shame, perhaps,

might induce those, who have the distribution of livings, to give to three of the living-less five a living each; but, if they can obtain from the public purse the means of just satisfying the hunger of these five, they will, of course, bestow the vacant livings in twos and threes. Before, therefore, any sum of money should have been granted for this purpose, an inquiry ought to have been made into the *actual distribution* of the income of the church; for, unless that be taken into view, I see no end of such grants as that which has just been made. The more you grant, the more "poorer clergy" there will be of course. You do not get rid of the poorer clergy by the grants. It may render those comfortable, who are now poor, but you will immediately have new claimants, because, in the same degree as you remove the miseries of the poorer clergy by grants, the livings will be heaped upon the others, 'till, in a very short time, you will not see a single beneficed clergyman without a plurality of livings.—Why has the present time been chosen for the making of this grant? "*The rise in prices.*" But, what is that to the clergy? Their income rises with the rise of prices; and so it ought. What, then, is there to justify this application of so large a sum of the public money now? I can see nothing at all in the nature of the times to afford such justification. I can discover no argument that might not have been made use of a hundred years ago as well as at this time. In short, it appears to me to be a new scheme for augmenting the amount of the ministry's patronage; a scheme for augmenting the means of satisfying those political cormorants, commonly called borough-mongers, and by no means what the king appears to regard it, a source of relief to the "poorer clergy."—There is, however, one good which will arise from this new mode of supporting clergymen; and that is, it will give those who pay taxes full authority to call upon the fat, the stall-fed priest, the double-pursed pluralist, for some shew of humility in political matters, at least, if none is to be expected from him in any of the other relationships of life. Let him remember, or, if he does not, we, I hope, shall, that the "poorer clergy" are his "*brethren*;" and, these his brethren, the lusty, the over-fed, the swollen, the rosy-gilled, the broad-faced and big-wigged gentleman leaves for us to keep. Let him be modest, then, when he appears before us, who have to maintain his

kindred. We have a right to expect a little less haughtiness and insolence on the part of the priesthood; unless, indeed, which is not impossible, they look upon this grant from the parliament as an acknowledgment due to the part they have acted and figure they have cut in the recent transactions and enquiries. If a group of *printers* or *public writers* had been dragged to light, in the way that Dr. O'Meara, Dr. Locke, the Rev. Mr. Lloyd, the Rev. Mr. Beazeley, and that pink of all parsons the Crazy Parson, Williams, who, by-the-bye, had "*cure of souls*" at the same time, were; if a group of printers had been thus exposed, what would have been said of them? Talk no more about the tricks and the various base arts of the methodistical or other sectarian priests; for, my answer always will be, that I wait till I see amongst them a group like that above-named. I have heard of no censure of the church pronounced upon these men. Their brethren must, like other people's brethren, take to them, or cast them off; but, my real belief is, that there are so many like them, or that would be like them if they could, that we never shall hear of their conduct being the subject of clerical censure. What is more, we have, in almost every part of the country, seen the clergy openly leagued with •ir political enemies, with those who have been distinctly accused of corruption. There has been scarcely a clergyman in all Hampshire, in particular, as far as my knowledge has reached, who has not done his utmost to give countenance to all that the people have been condemning. It was, it appears to me, a most indecent thing to advise the king, just at a time, when the sound of the names of the *Reverend* O'Meara, Beazeley, Williams, &c. &c. was still ringing in the ears of the members; to advise the king, just at such a time, to recommend to the House of Commons a grant of money to the clergy, part of which money will possibly go to these very persons; and, indeed, there is a fair *presumption*, that a part of it will go to Williams, the Crazy Parson with "*cure of souls*." If I were a member of parliament, I would call for an account of how this money had been disposed of. I would ascertain whose clutches it got into. I would see what sort of men the "*poorer clergy*" were. — The reliance which the king expresses, that the members of parliament will carry with them, into their respective *counties*, a disposition to inculcate a *spirit* of attachment to the *established laws* and happy con-

stitution, upon which, *under Providence*, depend the welfare and prosperity of the kingdom; this reliance is matter worthy of particular attention. One does not, indeed, very well understand what is meant by a "*spirit* of attachment," nor is it very easy to discover for what the word *established* is put before *laws*, except we suppose it a compliment due from a cabinet of lawyers to the numerous hordes of the profession, to give the nation a specimen of tautology in every speech from the throne; but, this we know, that there has been, in no part of the country, an attempt or the appearance of a disposition, amongst the *people*, to violate, or to disregard the "*established laws* and *happy constitution*," upon which, *under Providence*, depend the "*welfare and prosperity of this kingdom*." The members when they call us together, as, doubtless, they will, for the purposes of *inculcation*, need, however, be at no loss for topics. They have seen, and have gone through, a great deal during the last winter; and, they will, of course, tell the people what has passed. Amongst other things they will remind them, than a Mr. WARDLE brought certain charges against the Duke of York; that Mrs. Clarke and Miss Taylor, and others, gave such and such evidence; that General Clavering and the crazy Parson Williams did so and so; that Mr. Perceval and Mr. Adam had charged Digby Hamilton to conjure Capt. Sandon not to destroy the Note; that when they had been informed that the Note was destroyed, they brought the matter before the House; that, "*under Providence*," the Note was preserved, and was examined by hand-writing decyphers; that there was Dr. O'Meara, of the celestial unction, and the Rev. Mr. Beazeley, cherished by divine women; that there was a man of the name of Kennett, who had corresponded about a Loan in exchange for a Place; that there were two Love-Letters of the Duke of York produced in the House of Commons; that the House ACQUITTED the royal Duke; that, since that acquittal, Mrs. Clarke has threatened to publish a Book, and that she has kept this book out of the press in consequence of having received very large sums of money. — The members will, doubtless, remind us, and endeavour to keep constantly alive in our recollection, that, at the time when the Charges were brought forward against the Duke of York, there was an out-cry, a monstrous halloo; a war-wloop, set up about a Jacobin Conspi-

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vacy against the *House of Brunswick*; that it was asserted, with surprising noise of voice and emptiness of skull, that the conspirators meant to degrade the Army, the Church, and the Throne; that it finally appeared, that the said conspirators were no where to be found; that infamy was, according to Mr. Canning, to attach either to Mr. Wardle or to the Duke of York; that the nation, with voice unanimous, have *thanked* Mr. Wardle, and that the House of Commons *acquitted* the Duke of York.—The members will, doubtless, remind us, that, when Mr. Wardle first brought forward his Charges, an universal laugh was set up against him, when he talked of an open shop in the city for the Sale of Offices under Government, and that Mr. Perceval treated the story with derision; that, it afterwards appeared, that, at this very time, Mr. Perceval had been informed of the existence of such shop, but, as he said, his reason for disguising the fact was, he wished to *entrap* the office-sellers, that he had set people to work for that purpose, and that he had now succeeded and caught the delinquents in his trap.—The members will scarcely fail to remind us of the utter astonishment that became visible on the countenances of the East India Directors, when the fact slipped out, that there was now-and-then an office at their disposal, sold, contrary to law; that they called aloud for a Committee upstairs; that this Committee soon proved, that the traffic had long been as common as the dealings in Smithfield market; and that, amongst other transactions, offices under the East India Company had become objects of barter for *livings in the Church* and for *Seats in the House of Commons*.—Our “representatives” will, surely, remind us; the guardians of our purses; the protectors of our “happy constitution,” will certainly not fail to remind us, that Mr. Perceval, “under Providence,” narrowly missed catching one of his colleagues in his trap; for that it appeared from the Report of the up-stairs Committee, that Lord Castlereagh, while President of the Board of Controul, while filling an office intended to be a check upon the East India Directors, had offered an East India writership to be given in exchange for a Seat in the House of Commons, of which House also he was a member.—Yes, the honourable members will, surely, remind us of this, and further, that, when the matter was brought before the honourable House, and a motion was made for censuring the

said Lord Castlereagh, the honourable House did *reject* the said motion, upon the ground, that the *act was not completed*.—Our worthy representatives will, I dare say, next proceed to remind us, that, in a few days after this last occurrence, Mr. Madocks stated, to the honourable House, that he was ready to prove at their bar, that a Seat in that House had been sold to Mr. Quintin Dick, upon condition that he should vote as the ministers wished; that the sale was made by Mr. Henry Wellesley, a Secretary of the Treasury, and that Mr. Perceval, Chancellor of the Exchequer, was privy to the transaction; that Mr. Dick, rather than vote as the ministers wished in the case of the Duke of York, resigned his seat; and that, as *this act was complete*, he hoped that the House would set its face against it, when he had proved it by evidence at the bar.—Our faithful representatives will, surely, tell us, that the honourable House came to a division upon this subject, and that the honourable House resolved, by a majority of 310 against 85, that not even an Inquiry should take place.—When our worthy representatives have gone thus far, they will, perhaps, the better to illustrate and enforce their doctrines, go back to the year 1802, and remind us, that, in that year, this same Mr. PERCEVAL, being then Attorney General, prosecuted a Tinman of Plymouth, named PHILIP HAMLIN, for having offered to buy a place in the Custom-house; that Hamlin most solemnly declared his ignorance of his crime (having for years, seen places under government *publicly advertised for sale*), expressed the deepest sorrow, and humbly sued for mercy, seeing that a heavy punishment must be the ruin of himself and a large family; that, upon the affidavits being produced, Mr. Perceval still called for judgment upon this man, in the name of *Public Justice*; and, that the man, for only offering to purchase a place under government, at a time when such places were daily advertised for sale, in the public news-papers; that this man, for this offer, made under such circumstances, was, at the prosecution of this same Mr. Perceval, sentenced to pay *a fine of a hundred pounds to the king, and to be imprisoned for three months*.—Of all these things, and of Mr. Curwen's Bill, and other such matters, our honourable representatives will, at the suggestion of the king to come and *instruct* us, doubtless remind us; but, lest, by any accident, they should forget it, I

trust, that we shall not fail to remind *one another* of them: I trust, that every man, who has it in his power to communicate these valuable facts to those, who are not acquainted with them, will not think it labour lost to make such communication; but bear in mind constantly, that every man informed as to these matters is a man enrolled in the war against Corruption and its accompanying Oppression.—Having expressed great *satisfaction* at the *small* addition which has this year been made to the *burthens* of the people, the Speech next looks abroad, and talks of the *atrocious* and *unparalleled* act of violence and treachery by which the ruler of France attempted to surprize and enslave the Spanish nation. As to the *atrociousness* of the act I heartily agree; but, I never can allow it to be *unparalleled*; for without going very *far* back into history, I could cite much stronger instances of both *violence* and *treachery*; but, especially of the latter; of the basest treachery; the blackest perfidy; the most cruel and sanguinary deeds; and all with a view of finally committing *robbery*; I mean robbery of the lowest stamp, such as the stealing of precious metals and stones. Why, neither of the kings of Spain has been *thrown into a dungeon, kept awake 'till he has gone mad, or been smothered, or poisoned, or stabbed*, and that, too, under the base and perfidious pretence of *taking care of his person*. No: the kings of Spain are both alive and well, though Napoleon has them as much in his power as I have the pigs in my sty. There has not been, that we have heard of, any miscreant (the other day a *commis* in some *bureau*, perhaps) to teaze the kings of Spain with sham negotiations, and to offer them his insolent advice. Buonaparté, supposing *both* the kings of Spain to have been *betrayed* into his clutches, and to have been compelled to sign their respective acts of abdication, did, at any rate, take their kingdom from them *at once, and openly*; whereas the base wretches, to whose conduct I allude, proceeded in the most cowardly and underhand manner; and, after having committed robbery and murder upon the property and persons of sovereigns full as lawful as those of Spain, not only set up for persons of singular humanity, but made the nation, who were base enough to submit to their command, pay for the promulgation of an endless series of falsehoods, intended to stifle the cries of the oppressed, and to humbug and defraud the world. With

these facts before us; with these facts as well known as that the sun shines and that night brings darkness, I can never agree to apply the epithet "*unparalleled*" to Napoleon's conduct towards Spain.—Besides, in all these philippics against Napoleon, with regard to Spain, those of the *Spanish Nobles*, who have joined, and sworn allegiance to, his brother, seem to be left out of sight. *There is treachery* indeed! Napoleon has the plea of a conqueror; but, these nobles have no plea at all, unless it be their conviction, that it will be for the good of their country to place Joseph Buonaparté upon the throne, and that is a plea of which we will not admit. We seem always to forget, that Joseph Napoleon is at Madrid, surrounded by Spanish *Grandees*, who have sworn allegiance to him. Our spite against the Buonapartés is so great, that we seem to forget the misconduct of every body else. All the mischiefs are ascribed to them. All the kings and princes, *who fight on their side*, are perfectly innocent; they are objects of our *compassion*; it is Buonaparté who seduces them; they being of the Lord's anointed cannot commit sin, and all the sins, which, to the carnal eye, they appear to commit, are to be laid upon him, and to be answered for by him.—As to all that the Speech says about the *deliverance* of Europe, as it has been said in about fifteen king's speeches before this, it will not be expected, that I should offer any remark upon it. The "*splendid and important* success, which has recently "*crowned* the arms of the Emperor of "*Austria*," cannot, however, pass without some little notice, but, why need we be surprized at this description, when we recollect the recent rejoicings for successes in Portugal? Those, who could fire the Park and Tower Guns and make illuminations upon hearing, that an English *army* had defeated a French *rear-guard*, would naturally advise the king to talk of the *splendid and important success* of Austria, which still leaves Buonaparté in possession of the Austrian Capital.—This is certainly a time, and things are now in a posture, for producing great events; but, the worst of it is, there is only *one great actor*. There may be some truth in the accounts of *insurrections* in Germany and in the Tyrol; but, it is by no means ascertained, that they are *in favour of Austria*. Between the two; between France and those whom France aims at supplanting, the people appear to have got loose. The

kings and emperors have been fighting for the mastership over them, and the people seem to have become, during the battle, their own masters. If this were to go on, it would be a most glorious thing: this would be the real "*deliverance* of Europe;" but, this, I am afraid, is not what is meant in the Speech. I am afraid, that by "the "*deliverance* of Europe," and by the "*re-establishment* of the *security* and *independence* of other nations;" by these, I am afraid, is meant, the re-establishment of the *old system all over Europe*; and, if that be the meaning, the object will assuredly never be accomplished.—The Expedition, which we are now sending out, and which is said to amount to 40,000 men, ought to do something in the way of Europe's deliverance; but, if it go either to Germany or Spain, I do not see how it can do any thing at all in that way. Some say it is going to *Hanover*, and, if none but the *German Legion* were going, I should hail their departure; because I should like, of all things, to see those heroes engaged in the noble enterprize of rescuing their country from the hands of the French.—Forty thousand men is no trifling army for England to send forth; and, really, if it come back, without having performed any service, and even without having performed an *adequate* service, it will be high time for us to inquire whether the expence of this army cannot be saved.—If this Expedition should fail, and, if Napoleon should succeed in extinguishing Austria and in subduing Spain, it will then become us to consider, *of what avail* can be any further endeavours on our part, to stir up the continent against him. What good can we do ourselves; and what harm can we do him, by a perseverance in this restless system of purchasing insurrections; for, in truth, we excite nothing worthy of a much higher title? The philosophers, who are hired to write paragraphs, in the *Courier* and such prints, against Buonaparté, never appear to advert, even for a moment, to the circumstance, that, as far as the conquests of France have extended, there is a new set of *proprietors*, and that these are the most clever and active people in each state respectively. It is not a little matter that will overset these men; it is not a war, carried on by little lawyers, that will do it, notwithstanding all the sanguine expectations of the hirelings in London, and even of the *Morning Chronicle*, which seems to be, all at once, quite overpowered with the tide of joyful news

from the continent. They have got formidable *insurrections* against Napoleon, in every quarter and corner of Europe; where he has troops too numerous to leave room for insurrections, they have got *mutinies* amongst those troops; they have brought out a fresh Duke of Brunswick; they have pushed forward the king of Prussia; and, though they have not, as yet, absolutely got over the Emperor of Russia, the *Morning Chronicle* is very sanguine in the hope, "that the *amiable* queen has not wholly lost her influence over his heart, and "that she may succeed in recalling him "to the paths of *virtue* and *honour*." That is to say, to induce him to employ his soap-eaters to cut the throats of *our* enemies. That is the plain English of the "paths of "*virtue* and *honour*." What abominable hypocrisy men fall into, even without thinking of it, in this age of cant and affectation! How the Queen herself would laugh at this, if it were translated to her! "*Virtue* and *honour*," indeed! She would laugh to the splitting of her sides.—Lest, however, the virtue-and-honour expedition should fail, the *Courier*, by way of last resort, has an insurrection for the Emperor Alexander, our late "*magnanimous ally*." This extends even to a threat of deposition, unless he immediately recall his soap-eaters from their march against our friends. All these insurrections are for *us* and our interests. "*A rumour*," says the *Courier* of Wednesday last, "was in circulation "last night, that a messenger had arrived "with intelligence of an insurrection in "St. Petersburg. A number of the nobility and men of influence were said to "have *menaced the Emperor with deposition* "unless he consented to order the return of the "troops which were marching against Austria, "and also immediately negociate a peace with "Great Britain. We know not whether "such intelligence was brought by a messenger, but rumours to the above effect "have been received from *various quarters*. "We shall be happy to find them well founded."—Now, if the French government were, in their half-official papers, to make publications of this sort, how our hirelings would abuse them! How base it is, too, to express a hope of obtaining *peace* with a sovereign by the means of an insurrection against him amongst his people! Here is an explicit avowal, on the part of a news-paper, which is considered as speaking the sentiments of the government; an explicit avowal of an anxious wish, that insurrection may have taken place in Russia,

with threats to *dethrone* the Emperor, unless he withdraws his armies and negotiates an immediate peace with England. What would this hireling say, if a number of persons in England were found to engage in a plan to excite an insurrection for a similar purpose: to compel the king, for instance, to make peace with Buonaparté? What would the hireling say? Why, "away with the *traitors* to the gallows and "the gibbet!" Those, who should be guilty of such a crime in England, would be "traitors." And, why are they not traitors in Russia? That is a "regular government" as well as this. Where is the difference, then? The fact is this; that we appear to have laid it down as a maxim, that nothing, in any creature, is criminal that tends to our advantage; or, rather, to the advantage of those, who live upon the taxes in England.—I am, however, most surprized at the Morning Chronicle, which seems to have enlisted under the banners of the most sanguine Deliverers, and which really seems to suppose, that to cut Buonaparté's throat would produce a restoration of the golden age. The Morning Chronicle is continually belabouring poor Buonaparté; and without rhyme or reason. I should like to have an opportunity of seriously asking the editor of that paper, whether he really believes; whether he can believe, that totally to *destroy* the power of Buonaparté would be an unequivocal good. I should like to put this question to him, and to receive his answer, in a frank manner. This editor must certainly see, that, if all the old governments of Europe were, all at once, again restored, they would not only restore all their abuses, but would create tens of thousands of new ones, and would take care so to bind down their subjects, so to load them with chains, as to relieve themselves from all future danger of revolution. In short, a system of slavery, such as never was before heard of, would be established from one end to the other of the continent. I should suppose, that, without tracing the consequences to England, here is quite enough to make any reflecting man doubt the wisdom of wishing for the total destruction of the power of Buonaparté. Besides, as he goes on, he does some good as well as mischief. He must sweep away many a gang of public-robbers; many a nest of harpies he tramples to death in his progress; many knots of petty tyrants he disperses, stripped of their ill-gotten authority, and leaves them to be cuffed about

by those, over whom they have tyrannized; many a mob of vile wretches, who, instead of exercising the power of making laws, ought to be working at the galleys or in the mines; many a set of these most detestable of mankind, who inflict all the pains and penalties of despotism, under the names and forms of liberty and law.—I am satisfied, that, if the people of this country enjoy their *rights*, France never can invade us with success, however powerful she may be. Being satisfied of this, I look upon Buonaparté's power with much less terror than most people do; and I can truly say, that, for some years past, his successes have given me no uneasiness. Knowing that he cannot beat us *if we have our rights*, I know, of course, that there is *no danger* to be apprehended from him, which danger it is not in our power to remove. With those, who think that the people ought not to have their rights, the case must be very different; but, an excellent general rule is, that, what is good for them is bad for us, and what is bad for them is good for us; and, I must confess, that, when I hear certain people express *their sorrow* at events upon the continent, I derive great consolation from reflecting, that what makes them *sorry*, must, somehow or other, contain that which ought to make me *glad*. I do not stop to ask how this is. I draw the consolatory conclusion at once, feeling it impossible that their interests and mine should ever, in any case, be the same.—Seeing things in this way, I am not in such haste to wish for the total overthrow of the power of Buonaparté, which power, as I said before, is not at all dangerous to us, if we have our rights; for, in that case, it is quite impossible for him to set his foot in England. We ought, therefore, to think well before we make any further effort to send troops upon the continent. At sea we ought to be very careful to preserve a decided superiority; but, I really cannot see what we have to do with any part of the continent, the coasts of Spain and France excepted.—On we shall go, however, in the old way; millions upon millions more will be expended upon continental projects; we shall be so much the weaker, and he, whose power we are so anxious to annihilate, will be so much the stronger. This is my opinion as to what will take place; and I shall be very glad to find myself deceived. The war, with our government, has long been a war of

passion. Reason and policy have no longer any thing to do with it. It is a war against Napoleon's *person*. So it really appears; for the moment there is a chance of getting at him, away we send men and money and ships and every thing that we can rake together.—This is fine sport for the contractors and jobbers; but, what say those who have their incomes from the funds, and which incomes must go regularly on diminishing? No matter; for, it is to their credulity in the first place, and their baseness in the next place, that we owe all the complicated evils under which we now labour.

ESSEX MEETING. — From the documents, relating to this Meeting, which will be found below, it will be seen, that the Sheriff took upon him to refuse to call a County-Meeting, because some persons sent him a requisition *not to call one*. The *impudence* of this surpasses every thing. It is very clear, that if this be permitted, there can be no County-Meeting, unless the minister of the day pleases, that there should be one; for, the minister has the choosing of the *Sheriff*, and the Sheriff can always get people to send him a paper, if he will ask for it, requesting him not to do what he wishes not to do. The "glorious Constitution" would come to be a fine thing at last. The people might have Meetings to petition the king; Oh, yes! certainly, meetings to petition the king, *just as often as the king's servants please*, but no oftener; and, of course, they would please only when the evident intention of the people was to praise them, or their conduct. What a despicable farce! Really one cannot talk of it with patience. To confine oneself within common bounds of expression, is to wrong one's indignant feelings. —I am told, that Essex is a famous county for Political Parsons, who are also Justices of the Peace. Some of these, at the Cintra-Meeting, acted a most indecent part. A gentleman, who was present, told me, that they split and tore up a large mahogany dining table, and flew at their opponents, brandishing the legs and other parts of it. And yet there are those who wonder *why the Churches are empty!* — There has been a good deal of talk about "popular encroachment;" but, I do not believe, that, at any period of the history of England, the people were ever treated with such contempt as they have now been treated with in Essex. A County Meeting is the usual mode of assembling for the purpose of addressing or petitioning or

doing any thing as to which the sense of the county is to be taken; and, if the Sheriff, an officer *appointed by the king*, is to be the *judge* whether, upon any occasion, a meeting is to be held, or not; why, then, of course, the people are never to meet in County Meeting *without the king's permission*. And this is "the constitution," is it? This is that constitution, is it, for which we are to fight, and to spend our last shilling? — Upon this occasion, there is something peculiarly odious in the refusal of the Sheriff; because he makes use of the authority of the king *in opposition to Mr. Wardle*. Well, let him do it: we shall see who will lose by it in the end.

N. B. Mr. WARDLE's Speech in my next, at full length if possible; and, when we have that before us, we shall, with the greater advantage, proceed with our discussion of the subject of Parliamentary Reform.

Botley, Thursday, 29 June, 1809.

PROCEEDINGS

In COUNTIES, CITIES, BOROUGHs, &c. relative to the recent INQUIRY in the House of Commons, respecting the Conduct of the DUKE OF YORK. (Continued from p. 945.)

ESSEX MEETING.

To the Nobility, Clergy, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the County of Essex:

WE, the undersigned Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County of Essex, request you to assemble at the Shire-hall, at Chelmsford, on Tuesday next the 27th inst. at twelve o'clock, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of returning thanks to G. L. Wardle, esq. for his spirited and upright conduct in the House of Commons, and the members who supported him during the late Inquiry; and also of expressing your sentiments on the corrupt Practices and gross Abuses which have been brought to light by evidence given in that house during the late session of parliament. — We are compelled to make this direct application to you, in consequence of the refusal of the Sheriff, to whom two Requisitions have been presented, desiring him to use that authority to convene the County, which, by late practice, has devolved officially upon him, and the ministerial exercise of which has been rarely, if ever, before refused. The first Requisition he rejected on the ground of the subscribers not having designated themselves Freeholders, and on account of the Inhabitants being summoned as well

as Freeholders. Whether, maintaining as we still do the right of the Inhabitants, we can be justified or not in our concession to his opinion, we did concede those points, which his letter led us to imagine formed the only objections to our Requisition, and presented another in the manner he prescribed. This second Requisition however was, to our surprize, likewise refused, upon a ground totally different from those alleged in the first instance; namely, on account of an application conveyed to him from a great number of persons in various parts of the County, expressing an opinion that such Meeting was unnecessary and inexpedient. This application, it is to be observed, the Sheriff states to have received on or before the 31st ult., although in his answer, dated the 2d inst., he makes no mention of that circumstance as forming any ground for his refusal at that time. We shall abstain now from any comment upon these proceedings; but we most anxiously call upon you to maintain the Right of the People to meet and consider the conduct of their Representatives, to canvas public measures; and to prefer any petition, complaint, remonstrance, or other declaration or address to the King, or either House of Parliament. This is a fundamental right, which it is the duty of every man to assert and defend; and which would be practically destroyed if a judicial power founded on any authority or advice of individuals can be assumed by the Sheriff, and is allowed to prevent the assembling of the people for such purposes, and on such occasions. (Signed) Montagu Burgoyne, Mark Hall; S. Chamberlayne, Ryes; John Disney, The Hyde; J. B. Chamberlayne, Ryes; T. H. White, Sewells, Harlow; W. Lord, Gladwyns; Daniel W. Harvey, Feering House; W. Newman, Brentwood; W. Bliss, Brentwood; J. Barnard, Harlow; Ralph Polley, Bocking; J. Mumford, Harlow; G. W. Potter, Rochford; James Hobbs, Braintree; James Digby, Rochford; Robert King, Brentwood; Joseph Aldridge, Baddow; Joseph Joyner, High House; W. B. Jarrold, Manningtree; T. Chaplin, Harlow; David Taylor, Harlow; Frederic John Nash, Bishop Stortford; John Cochran, Plaistow; W. Cordell, London; Joseph Jackson, London; W. Hibbit, West Ham.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County of Essex, held at the Crown and Anchor, in the Strand,

the 8th of June, 1809, the following Resolution was adopted:—That, having learnt that a Requisition, signed by 100 respectable gentlemen and yeomen of the County, has been presented to the High-Sheriff, to convene a Meeting of the County for the purpose of returning Thanks to G. L. Wardle, esq. for his spirited and upright conduct in the House of Commons during the late Inquiry, and also to express their sentiments on the corrupt practices which have been brought to light by evidence given in that House; and having likewise heard that an application has been made to the Sheriff, with a view of preventing such Meeting from taking place, and that the High-Sheriff has declined to convene the County, upon the ground of the Requisition not purporting to be a Requisition of the Freeholders, and of the Subscribers to it not being designated themselves as such: We, the undersigned Freeholders and Inhabitants of the County, without giving any opinion upon the questions that may be submitted to a County Meeting, do declare our sentiments, that Meetings of the Freeholders and Inhabitants, to consider the conduct of their Representatives, and to discuss public measures on occasions that they deem sufficiently important, are highly expedient; that this is an inalienable right of the People, the exercise of which ought not to be impeded, and which cannot be taken away without an infringement of the Constitution which is the pride and boast of Britain, and the envy and admiration of the world. (Signed) T. Brand, H. St. John Mildmay, W. Honeywood, W. Smith, S. Whitbread, C. C. Western, R. Baker, M. Burgoyne, P. Ducane, jun., T. Holt White, W. Martin, J. Reddin, J. Claridge, T. Wood, Daniel Ross, S. Chamberlayne, Peter Wright, Osgood Hanbury, John Luard, John Disney, J. B. Chamberlayne, T. W. Western, Charles Onley, Philip Salter, T. T. Cock, J. Griggs, R. M. Robinson, Jeffrey Salter, J. Godfrey, G. Wyatt, J. Joyner, D. W. Harvey, Wm. Newman, G. Prentice, J. Digby, J. Hobbs, Robert King, Jos. Aldridge, W. Lord, J. Barnard, Ralph Polley, W. B. Jarrold, J. Mumford, Tho. Marsh, John Richardson, T. Joslin, T. Wright, James Kavanah, John Grove, John Clarke, Wm. Bliss, John Offin, Abraham Offin, T. Finch, John Sturgeon, Wm. Overhead, Charles Marston, John Offin, jun., Rob. White, Wm. Offin, J. Jackson, T. Keye, James Keye.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

FRENCH ARMY IN AUSTRIA.

Thirteenth Bulletin, dated Ebersdorf, May 28.

During the night of the 26th and 27th, our bridges on the Danube were carried away by the waters and the mills which have been set free. We had not time to finish the piles and fix the great iron chain. To day one of the bridges has been re-established, and we expect the other will be completed to morrow.—The Emperor spent yesterday on the left bank surveying the fortifications which are raising on the island of In-der-Lobau and in order to inspect some regiments of the duke de Rivoli's corps, stationed at this sort of tête-de-pont.—On the 27th, at night capt. Baillie, aid-de-camp of the Viceroy, brought the agreeable tidings of the arrival of the Army of Italy at Bruck. Gen. Lauriston had been sent in advance, and the junction took place on the Simmeringberg. A chasseur of the 9th, who was proceeding as scout to a detachment of the Army of Italy, met a chasseur of a platoon of the 20th, sent by gen. Lauriston. After having observed each other for some time, they discovered that they were Frenchmen, and embraced. The chasseur of the 20th proceeded to Bruck to repair to the Viceroy, and the chasseur of the 9th repaired to gen. Lauriston, to inform him of the approach of the Army of Italy. During twelve days the two armies had received no intelligence of each other. On the evening of the 26th, gen. Lauriston was at Bruck, at the head-quarters of the Viceroy.—The Viceroy has displayed, during the whole campaign, a calmness and an extent of observation which are the presages of a great general.—In the relation of facts which have graced the Army of Italy during these last 20 days, his Majesty has marked with pleasure the destruction of the corps of Jellachich. It was this general whose insolent proclamation enkindled the fury and sharpened the daggers of the Tyrolese. Pursued by the duke of Dantzic—in danger of being flanked by the brigade of gen. Dupellin, whom the duke of Auersstadt had dispatched by way of Mariazell, he ran as into a snare upon the van of the Army of Italy.—The archduke John, who, so short a time since in the excess of his presumption, degraded himself by his letter to the duke of Ragusa, evacuated Gratz yester-

day, the 27th, taking with him hardly 25 or 30,000 men, of the fine army with which he entered Italy. Arrogance, insults, excitements to revolt, all his actions, which bear the stamp of rage, have turned to his shame.—The people of Italy have conducted themselves as the people of Alsace, Normandy, or Dauphine, would have done.—On the retreat of our soldiers, they accompanied them with their vows and their tears, and led individuals who had lost their way, by bye-paths, five days march to their army; and when any French or Italian prisoners were brought by the enemy into their towns or villages, the inhabitants brought them assistance, and during the nights endeavoured to disguise them and assist them in their flight.—The proclamations and the discourses of the archduke John inspired only contempt and scorn; and it would be difficult to describe the joy of the people of the Piave, the Taglimento, and of the Frioul, when they saw the army of the enemy flying in disorder, and the army of the sovereign and the country returning in triumph.—When the papers were examined which belonged to the intendant of the Austrian army, who was at the head both of the government and the police; and which were taken at Padua, in four carriages, the proof of the love which the people of Italy bear to the Emperor was then discovered. Every body refused the places offered them; no one was willing to serve Austria; and among seven millions of men, who compose the population of the kingdom, the enemy could not find more than three wretches who did not repel seduction.—The regiments of Italy, who had distinguished themselves in Poland, and who had emulated in the campaign in Catalonia, the most ancient French campaigns, covered themselves with glory in every engagement. The people of Italy are marching with rapid strides to the last period of a happy change. That beautiful part of the Continent, to which are attached so many great and illustrious recollections, which the Court of Rome, that swarm of monks, and its own divisions, had ruined, is appearing with honour again on the théâtre of Europe.—All the details which reach us of the Austrian army shew, that on the 21st and 22nd its loss was enormous. The choice troops of the army have perished. The good folks of Vienna say, that the manœuvres of gen. Danube saved the Austrian army.—The Tyrol and the Voralberg are com-

pletely subjected. Carniola, Styria, Carinthia, the territory of Salzburg, Upper and Lower Austria, are pacified and disarmed.—Trieste, that city where the French and Italians suffered so many insults, has been occupied. One circumstance in the capture of Trieste, has been most agreeable to the Emperor—the delivery of the Russian squadron. It had received orders to fit out for Ancona, but, detained by contrary winds, it remained in the power of the Austrians.—The junction of the army of Dalmatia will soon take place. The duke of Ragusa began his march as soon as he heard that the army of Italy was on the Isonzo. It is hoped that it will arrive at Laybach before the 5th of June.—The robber Schill, who assumed, and with reason, the title of general in the service of England, after having prostituted the name of the king of Prussia, as the satellites of England prostitute that of Ferdinand at Seville, has been pursued and chased into an island of the Elbe.—The king of Westphalia, independently of 15,000 men of his own troops, had a Dutch division and a French division; and the duke of Valmy has already united at Hanau two divisions of the corps of observation, commanded by generals Rivaud and Despeaux, and composed of the brigades Lameth, Clement, Taupin, and Vaufland.—The rage of the princes of the house of Lorraine against Vienna may be painted with one stroke. The capital is fed by 40 mills, raised on the left bank of the river. They have removed and destroyed them.

Fourteenth Bulletin, dated Ebersdorf, June 1.

The bridges upon the Danube are completely re-established: to these have been added a flying bridge; and all the necessary materials are preparing for another bridge of floats. Seven machines are employed to drive in the piles, but the Danube being in many places 24 and 26 feet in depth, much time is spent in order to fix the anchors, when the machines are displaced. However, our works are advancing, and will be finished in a short time.—The gen. of brigade of engineers, Lazowski, is employed on the left bank upon a tête-de-pont of 1,600 toises in extent, and which will be surrounded by a trench full of running water.—The 44th crew of the flotilla of Boulogne, commanded by the captain de vaisseau Baste, is arrived. A great number of boats, cruising in the river about the islands,

protect the bridge and render great service.—The battalion of marine workmen labour in the construction of little armed vessels, which will serve completely to command the river.—After the defeat of the corps of gen. Jellachich, M. Matthieu, capt.-adjutant of the staff of the army of Italy, was sent with an orderly dragoon upon the road to Saltzburgh, who having successively met with a column of 650 troops of the line, and a column of 2,000 militia, both of whom were cut off, and had lost their way; they, on being summoned to surrender, laid down their arms.—The general of division Lauriston is arrived at Oldenburgh, the first country town of Hungary, with a strong advanced guard. There appears to be some ferment in Hungary, where men's minds are divided, the greater part of them not seeming favourable to Austria.—The general of division Lasalle has his head-quarters opposite to Besbourgh, and pushes his posts to Altenbourgh, and Rhaab.—Three divisions of the army of Italy are arrived at Neustadt. The Viceroy has been for the last two days at the head-quarters of the Emperor.—General Macdonald, who commands one of the corps of the army of Italy, has entered Gratz. There have been found in this capital of Styria immense magazines of provisions, clothing, and equipments of every kind.—The duke of Dantzic is at Lintz. The prince of Ponte Corvo is marching to Vienna. The general of division Vandamme, with the Wirtembergers, is arrived at St. Polten, Mautern, and Crems.—Tranquillity reigns in the Tyrol; cut off by the movements of the duke of Dantzic and of the army of Italy, all the Austrians who have engaged in that point have been destroyed; some by the duke of Dantzic, others, such as the corps of Jellachich, by the army of Italy. Those who were in Swabia had no other resource than to endeavour to cross Germany as partisans, directing their march by the Upper Palatinate. They formed a small column of infantry and cavalry, which, after escaping from Lindau, was met by col. Reiset, of gen. Beaumont's corps of observation. It was cut off at Neumarck; and the whole column, officers and soldiers, laid down their arms.—Vienna is tranquil; bread and wine are in abundance; but meat, which this capital used to draw from the bottom of Hungary, begins to be scarce. Contrary to all reasons of policy and motives of humanity, the enemy do all in their power to starve

their fellow-citizens and this city, although it contains their wives and children. How different is this from the conduct of our Henry IV. who supplied a city then hostile to, and besieged by him, with provisions!—The duke of Montebello died yesterday, at five in the morning. Shortly before, the Emperor passed an hour with him. His majesty sent his aid-de-camp, Rapp, for Dr. Franc, one of the most celebrated physicians in Europe. His wounds were in good condition, but a dangerous fever had made in the course of a few hours the most fatal progress.—All the assistance of art was useless. His majesty has ordered that the body of the duke of Montebello should be embalmed, and conveyed to France, there to receive the honours that are due to his elevated rank and eminent services. Thus died one of the most distinguished soldiers that France ever produced. In the many battles in which he was engaged, he had received 13 wounds. The Emperor was deeply afflicted by this loss, which will be felt by all France.

Fifteenth Bulletin, dated Ebersdorff, June 2.

The army of Dalmatia has obtained the greatest success. It has defeated all that it has opposed in the battles of Mont-Kitta, Geadchatz, Lieca, and Attachatz.—The general in chief Sloissevitch has been taken.—The duke of Ragusa arrived on the 28th of May at Fiume, and thus the army of Italy has formed a junction with the grand army, of which the army of Dalmatia forms the right. The report of the duke of Ragusa respecting these different events shall be published.—On the 28th, an English squadron, consisting of four ships of the line, two frigates, and a sloop, appeared before Triest, with an intention of taking the Russian squadron.—General count Copaulle had just arrived at that port. As the town was disarmed, the Russians landed 40 pieces of cannon, 24 of which were 36-pounders, and 16 of 24. They have placed their cannon on a battery under which the Russian squadron came to anchor with springs on their cables. Every thing was ready to receive the enemy, who seeing that he had failed in his design, went off. One thousand Austrians having passed from Krems to the right bank of the Danube, have been destroyed by the Wirtemberg troops, which took 60 of them prisoners.

Sixteenth Bulletin, dated Ebersdorff, June 4.

The enemy had thrown upon the right

bank of the Danube, opposite to Presburg, a body of 9000 men, who entrenched themselves in the village of Engorau. The duke of Auerstadt attacked them yesterday with the sharp-shooters of Hesse Darmstadt, supported by the 12th regiment of infantry of the line. The village was speedily carried. A major and eight other officers of Beaulieu's regiment (one of them the grand-son of field-marshal Beaulieu) and 400 privates, were made prisoners. The rest of this regiment were killed, wounded, or driven into the water. The remains of the enemy's corps found in an island the necessary protection for their re-crossing the river. The sharp-shooters of Hesse Darmstadt acquitted themselves extremely well. The Viceroy of Italy has returned to his army, and for the present has his head-quarters at Oedenburg, in Hungary.—All the valuable effects belonging to the court have been conveyed from Ofen to Peterwaradin, on the frontiers of Servia. The empress has also repaired thither. The duke of Ragusa has arrived at Laybach. General Macdonald is master of Gratz, having reduced the castle, which seemed disposed to make some resistance.—In the battle of Esling, on the 21st and 22d of last month, brigadier gen. Foulers was wounded, in making a charge, and thrown from his horse. A similar accident befel the gen. of division, Durosnel, aid-de-camp to the Emperor, as he was carrying orders to a division of cuirassiers who were charging the enemy. We have had the satisfaction of learning that both these generals, and 150 soldiers whom we gave up for lost, were only wounded, and that they were left lying among the corn at the moment when the Emperor, on learning that the bridges had been broken down, ordered the troops to concentrate themselves between Esling and Great Aspern.—The Danube falls, but from the continuance of the warm weather we fear that it will rise again.

Seventeenth Bulletin, dated Vienna, June 8, 1809.

Colonel Gorgoli, aid-de-camp of the Emperor of Russia, has arrived at the Imperial head-quarters with a letter from that sovereign for his Majesty. He has announced that the Russian army, which is marching upon Olmutz, had passed the frontiers on the 24th of May. The Emperor, the day before yesterday, reviewed his guard—infantry, cavalry, and artillery. The inhabitants of Vienna admired the

number, fine appearance, and excellent condition of these troops.—The Viceroy has gone with the army of Italy to Oedenburgh in Hungary. It appears that the archduke John intends to rally his army on the Raab.—The duke of Ragusa arrived with the army of Dalmatia, on the 3d of this month, at Laybach.—The heat is very great, and persons acquainted with the Danube assure us that in a few days it will overflow. We shall employ this time to finish driving the piles, independent of the bridges of boats and rafts.—All the accounts which we receive from the enemy state, that the towns of Presburgh, Brunn, and Znaym, are full of wounded. The Austrians themselves estimate their loss at 18,000 men.—Prince Poniatowski, with the army of the duchy of Warsaw, is pursuing the advantages he has gained. After the taking of Sandomei, he took the fortress of Zamosa, where the enemy suffered a loss of 3,000 men and 30 pieces of cannon. All the Poles who are in the Austrian army desert.—The enemy, after having failed before Thorn, have been vigorously pursued by gen. Dombrowski.—The archduke Ferdinand will derive nothing from his expedition but disgrace. He must have arrived in Austrian Silesia with his force reduced to one-third.—The senator Wibiski has distinguished himself by his patriotic sentiments and his activity.—The count de Metternich has arrived at Vienna, he is to be exchanged at the advanced posts for the French legation, to whom the Austrians, contrary to the law of nations, had refused passports, and had sent to Pest.

This Bulletin is followed by the details at length of the operations of the duke of Ragusa's army in Dalmatia; which state, that he gained a victory over the Austrians on the 16th of May, at Kitta in Croatia, in which the latter lost 400 killed, from 6 to 700 wounded, and 500 prisoners. And in another affair, on the 17th, at Gradschatz, the French are stated to have lost 300 men, and Marmont was himself wounded. Another victory is stated to have been subsequently gained by the French at Gospich, which they entered on the 23d, and arrived at Fiume on the 28th, after some skirmishes, from whence, he says, they were to march on the 31st, to unite with the army of Italy. In the whole of the actions, 6,000 Austrians and Croats are said, in this account, to have been put *hors de combat*. The loss of the French in the affairs subsequent to the

16th, is stated at 400 killed and wounded.

Eighteenth Bulletin, dated Vienna, June 13.

The division of gen. Chastelar which had raised the Tyrol, proceeded on the 4th of this month to the environs of Clagenfurth, in order to throw itself into Hungary. Gen. Rusca marched against it, and a severe engagement took place, when 900 prisoners were made. Prince Eugene with a large corps manœuvres in the centre of Hungary. For some days past the Danube has risen a foot.—Gen. Graben, with a Dutch division, having marched to Stralsund, where Schill had entrenched himself, carried the entrenchments by assault. Schill gave orders to burn the town to secure his retreat, but had no time. Schill himself was killed in the great square, near the Corps de Garde, and at the moment when he fled, and was endeavouring to reach the port in order to embark.—The archduke Ferdinand evacuated Warsaw precipitately on the 2d instant, so that the whole of the Grand Duchy is abandoned by the enemy's army, whilst the troops under the command of prince Poniatowsky occupy three-fourths of Gallicia.

AUSTRIAN ARMY.—Second Bulletin, dated Alt Oetting, April 12.

Agreeably to the prescribed arrangements, the army advanced on the 11th further towards the Viles and the Iser.—The weather was very bad, but the troops endured all the hardships of an uncommonly severe season with the greatest cheerfulness.—On the 10th, at half past ten in the morning, field marshal Dedovich entered Passau. The enemy retired, but by the rapid advance of our troops, a French officer of engineers and eight pioneers were taken. A French general in the upper fort escaped with difficulty. Prince Rosenberg, commander of the 4th corps of the army, summoned the fort to surrender, but this summons was, in compliance with the custom of war, answered by a refusal.—The true patriotic spirit of the inhabitants of Passau was clearly demonstrated by the joy they displayed on our entering the town. They immediately printed the Proclamation of his royal highness the Generalissimo to the German nation, and distributed 2,000 copies to the people of the country. Thus the feeling of German independence remains, and is cherished among them.

Third Bulletin, dated Vils Biburg, April 15.

The army is collected on the Vils, and will to-morrow pass the Iser at Landshut and Dingelfingen.—The enemy appears disposed to dispute the passage. The army is anxious to meet him, and to come to blows.—Field-marshal Jellachich has by this time also passed the Inn at Rosenhelm and Wassenburgh, and advanced against Munich. An advanced post of the enemy has been taken at Haag; 13 prisoners and 17 horses fell into our hands. The enemy lost some killed and wounded; on our side we had only one hussar slightly wounded.—On the 9th, field-marshal Chastellar, amidst the joyful acclamations of the faithful Tyrolese, entered the Tyrol at Lienz, through the Pusterthal, and on the 12th had already reached Brauneck; the Saltzberg Jagers and some detachments of infantry, provided with snow and climbing irons, co-operate with him by the Zillerthal. Our patrols are pushed forward to Reichenhall, Lofers, and St. Johan; the militia of Lofers has occupied the pass of Strub, one of the most important entrances from Saltzburg into the Junthal. The Tyrolese are every where flying to arms and expelling the Bavarians; 1,500 of the latter have taken refuge in the fortress of Kufstein, and are besieged there by the Tyrolese. A French officer had recently taken the command of that fortress; the Bavarians, however, begin to be tired of the French superiority, and feel sensibly the deep degradation of their oppressed situation. Their disgust at the arrogance of the French officers has, in several instances, produced acts of violence.

Fourth Bulletin, dated Landshut, April 16.

This day the army advanced to the Iser. The fifth corps was in the front, and found the bridge at Landshut broken down. A division of from 6 to 8,000 Bavarians, under gen. Derozy, defended the passage. There remained nothing to be done but to open a passage by force. The bridge was accordingly re-established under the fire of the enemy; the fifth corps crossed, and an action followed, which terminated by the retreat of the Bavarians. On both sides there were some killed and wounded, but our loss would have been still less had it been possible to restrain the ardour of the troops.—Landshut is the key of the Iser; we are in possession of a great part of Bavaria. The general of cavalry, count Bellegarde, broke up from Bohemia on the

10th, with the first corps of the army, by Tieschenreith, and on the 12th formed a junction at Werenberg with the 2d corps of the army, which had entered the Upper Palatinate by Rushaupten. Both corps took a position on the Nab, and their vanguard occupied the heights of Hirschan in order to watch the road from Bayreuth to Amberg. Here an affair of advanced posts took place with the division of Friant, which was understood to be approaching in order to reach the Danube by a rapid march through Amberg. The consequence of the action was, that this division was driven back to Neumarkt, and our advanced posts occupied Amberg. The brave Tyrolese have already killed or taken prisoners all the French and Bavarian soldiers in their territory. All the passes in the Upper Junthal, as the Zinler-berg, the Scharnitz, Leutash, Reuti, &c. are occupied by the militia of the country. On the 12th, 160 men of the 11th Bavarian regiment of infantry, and 125 dragoons, with half a battery, were made prisoners at Innspruck. On the 13th, 49 French officers, 1,677 men, with 451 horses, and two light battalions of Bavarians, with two pieces of cannon, and a howitzer, surrendered at Wildau to the Tyrolese, by capitulation. To-morrow the army moves towards the Upper Danube. Hitherto we have fallen in with no French troops, though in the action of this day some French officers were taken among the Bavarians.

Fifth Bulletin, dated Landshut, April 17.

According to the concurring reports of all the prisoners, as well as the inhabitants at Landshut, the French general Lefevre has collected 12,000 Bavarians from the neighbourhood of Munich and Freysingen, with the view of stopping the passage of the Austrian army by Landshut. The approach to the bridges was extremely difficult. They were, besides, broken down, and the enemy's tirailleurs, who had occupied all the houses on the opposite bank, could only be driven therefrom by cannon being brought to bear upon them: each gun on our side was mounted under a shower of small shot from the enemy. In doing this, however, our artillery displayed the greatest resolution, and in two hours the whole of the opposite side of the town was in ruins.—The unfortunate inhabitants in the midst of their ruined houses bewail the melancholy fate to which this fine town has been exposed by their own countrymen. The French, who by misrepresentations,

would make appear that Austria wishes to seize Bavaria, and to disarm in a disgraceful manner the brave soldiers of that country, had required these troops to make a fruitless defence. Here French artifice succeeded in making foreign blood flow for their advantage, and in turning the arms of our German brethren against their deliverers. The first bridge was scarce formed by a few posts, when the advanced guard of the fifth corps hastened across the Iser and pursued the enemy until night. The troops are animated with an excellent spirit, and sing war songs under the thunder of the cannon. The advanced guard of field marshal Jellachich entered Munich at eleven yesterday forenoon. The king and queen have fled under French protection to Augsburg. The fourth army-corps passed the Iser without opposition at Dingolfingen. The first and second corps have, after some successful fighting, advanced to Amberg, Schavandorf, and Kirn near Ratisbon. General Bellegarde cannot sufficiently praise the gallant spirit and undaunted resolution of his troops.

Sixth Bulletin, dated Sacile, April 17.

On the 10th and 11th his imperial highness the archduke John, with the army under his command, entered the territory of Frioule, by Pouteba, Cividale and Gortz, and after some opposition, advanced on the 13th to the Tagliamento. The enemy retired across the river, in order to join with the troops in the rear. This junction, which probably took place at Sacile, made the hostile army five divisions strong.—In the night of the 14th his imperial highness proceeded with the advanced guard towards Pordenone; the remainder of the army followed at day-break. The enemy's advanced guard was at Pordenone, and his army was posted between that place and Sacile, near Fontana. In this situation an action commenced, which, after a sanguinary contest of two days, terminated entirely to our advantage.—The vice king of Italy commanded the French army. The result was so decisive, that the enemy could not maintain themselves behind the Livenza, but were obliged to retreat rapidly to the Piave. The prisoners amount already to 6,000, among whom are generals Paza and Bressen. More are constantly brought in. The loss in killed and wounded greatly exceeds this number, and we have taken 16 cannon and three eagles.

Letter from the Emperor Francis to Marshal Colloredo.

DEAR FIELD-MARSHAL; Owing to the rapid movements of the army, and accumulated business, no Official Report has appeared for several days, I transmit you a concise extract of the Reports sent me, in order that you may publish them.

Scharding, April 22, 1809. FRANCIS.

Seventh Official Report.

After passing the Iser, his imperial highness the Generalissimo, with the 3d, 4th, and 5th corps of the army, and the 1st corps of the reserve, broke up against the Danube, in the direction to Kehlheim and Ratisbon. The enemy were drawn up near Ratisbon. Agreeable to the declaration of prisoners of war, the emperor Napoleon reached the army on the 19th instant. The Generalissimo has made a forced march from the Iser to beyond the Labar, and advanced on the 19th through Eckmuhl, Rotenburgh, Cloisterrock. The enemy encountered him, and a very brisk action took place. The Generalissimo praises the bravery of the troops. Our loss is considerable: several regiments have lost all their staff, officers; field-marshal lieutenant Lusignan—the princes Louis and Maurice, of Lichtenstein, are wounded. The Generalissimo kept the army in order of battle the next day to follow the movements of the enemy. We have no further details about this affair.—The loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, is not yet known, as the multiplicity of business prevented his imperial highness for making circumstantial reports on the field of battle (off Hansen) to his majesty. On the 26th Ratisbon capitulated.—On the same day the 5th corps of the army was also smartly attacked, near Seigenburgh, upon Abins. The archduke Lewis retreated, in common with field-marshal lieutenant Holler, against the Iser, to cover Landshut: both corps are united. On the 21st marshal Davoust attacked the 4th corps of the army, near Eckmuhl; a very severe action took place which lasted for 12 hours. On the 22d the second corps of the army re-reated by Ratisbon, and combined with the main army. The head-quarters of Generalissimo the archduke Charles were on the 21st near Eglofsheim.

Eighth Official Report.

Tranquillizing news has been received

from the 5th and 6th corps of the army as well as the 2d. All the three corps stand united near Old Oeling. The defile near Landshut, where several waggons obstructed the road while the advancing enemy was bravely opposed, has rendered the loss of some artillery and several waggons unavoidable. By official reports, the loss of men is not considerable; only one division of the regiment of Benjaysk's infantry, which was obliged to pass the bridge of the Iser, already in flames, suffered severely. These three united corps will follow the movements of the main army, under the command of the Generalissimo. By the most recent accounts the Generalissimo's head-quarters still continued at Eglofsham, on the 22d, and the enemy in their position.—The second corps had effected a junction on the Ratisbon road with the 3d and 4th corps of reserve, and a general attack on the enemy was resolved on the 23d. On the 22d, at noon, the cannon were roaring violently in that part, and probably the murderous fight continues. The combat is conducted with uncommon animosity. Every man feels the sublime cause for which he fights. We have not yet any definitive accounts. The Emperor's court is at Schaerding. While the main army kept advancing along the Danube, and the corps near Old Oeling, stands ready either for offensive operations, or to defend the river Inn, his majesty considering the probability of a corps of the enemy threatening the frontiers of the hereditary dominions, thought it proper to order out the Militia of Lower Austria, Saltzburgh, and that of Inner Austria. The Militia of Upper Austria has been under arms since the armies advanced, partly on the Inn, and partly to invest the fortress of Obuhans.

N. B.—The Ninth Report is the same as has already been published from the Supplement Extraordinary to the Official Gazette of Prague.

Tenth Bulletin.

Lieutenant field-marshal Hiller has notified from St. Vert, under date of the

24th of April, that he had caused the enemy's advanced guard to be attacked on the 23d by major generals Mesko and Nordman, with the Kiermayer and Lichtenstein hussars, and the frontier corps. On the 24th the lieutenant field marshal advanced with three columns, and the enemy waited the attack before Steten, where a very obstinate action, with fortunate consequences, took place. All reports concur in stating, that the divisions of Moliter and Boudet, were both in this battle, and that the Bavarian and Hessian troops amounted together to 18,000 men. Up to the 25th, no trace of an enemy had been observed on the Austrian frontiers.

Eleventh Bulletin.

The information respecting the battle of the 22d, which has been received by his majesty, has laid the foundation for the best hopes. The result of that sanguinary contest was unexpected. In the evening, as the couriers left the field, a great superiority of cavalry decided the action unfavourably for our arms. The left wing was compelled to give way. According to a report from his imperial highness the Generalissimo, dated on the 23d, from the heights of Ratisbon, the grand army has crossed the Danube, and taken the road to Waldmunchen. Thus terminated a most obstinate battle, which had continued for five days without interruption—Fortune often fluctuated. The loss on both sides is immense. This shews that the contest was carried on both with courage and animosity.—Every one must do justice to the behaviour of our troops. The Generalissimo bestows uncommon praises on the conduct of the army, which has been quite exhausted by continued fatigue. Lieutenant field-marshal baron Hiller is between the Iser and the Inn. We have for the present changed our operations from the offensive to the defensive.

Twelfth Bulletin, dated Warsaw, April 21.

His royal highness the archduke Ferdinand, with the army under his command, crossed the Petica at Nove Miasto on the 15th, and entered the duchy of Warsaw.

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DIRECTIONS TO THE BOOK-BINDER.

It is to be observed, that this sheet, which is the last of Volume XV., should not be cut open by the Reader, but should be left to the Book-binder, who will perceive that the first quarter, viz. p. 1025 to 1032, of which this page makes a part, comes at the end, and that the rest of the sheet, containing the Title Page and Table of Contents, is to be cut off, and placed at the beginning of the Volume.

On the 17th, our troops first met the enemy at Pietrikozoy and Konie, and immediately attacked them. On the 19th the enemy took a very advantageous position at Raszyn, and was reinforced with all the troops which were in Warsaw. But in spite of all the difficulties of the ground, the Austrians commenced the attack. The enemy made an obstinate resistance, and by the approach of night, retreated to his entrenchments in the front of Warsaw. Our loss is about 71 killed, and 255 wounded, and 72 missing. Among the dead we have to regret three brave officers; there are seven among the wounded. The imperial troops closely pursued the enemy, who entered Warsaw on the 20th. In order to spare the town the Archduke consented to enter into a negotiation with the general commanding the enemy's troops, and a treaty was concluded by which the latter has bound himself to evacuate Warsaw on the 23d, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

Thirteenth Official Report, from the Imperial Royal Army.

They write from the Court of his Majesty the Emperor, at Strengberg, under date of the 29th of April, as follows:—The engagement which field marshal Hiller gave on the 24th ult. over Neumark, took place against the French marshal Bessieres, with three French and one Bavarian division, and was very obstinate and bloody. General Hiller cannot sufficiently praise the courage and resolution of the troops. The two regiments of infantry, Klebeck and Dueck, have particularly proved what resolute foot soldiers are able to do even against cavalry. His majesty after the action presented field marshal Hiller with the cross of commander of the order of Maria Theresa. The two corps united under the command of the said field marshal, retreated towards the Inn on the 25th April, with the second corps of reserve. In consequence of the advice, that the grand army near Ratisbon had gone on the left bank of the Danube, they drew up near Old Oetling. On the 25th these corps marched by Buckhausen and Brannau to Altheim, to be ready for the defence of the Upper and Lower Inn. Field marshal lieut. Jellachich is stationed near Rosenheim and Wasserberg, and keeps up the communication with the Tyrol, as well as, by intermediate posts, that with the corps of field marshal lieut. Hiller.—On the 26th in the afternoon, the enemy from Passau repulsed our divisions on the Inn at its

entrance into the Danube: at the same time a detachment of the division of Le Grand appeared before Scharding, where the bridge had been removed, planted artillery, set fire to some houses in the town, and did not ask the replacing of the bridge before they had threatened to reduce the whole town to ashes. By the infantry stationed at Scharding, the restoration of the bridge was prevented till night by discharges of artillery and musquetry; but field marshal lieut. Dedovich, who led only a weak detachment of troops who had before that blockaded the fortress of Obuhaus, and three battalions of militia with him, having received advice of the enemy's advancing from Passau on the right bank of the Inn, he was obliged to leave Scharding and went towards Taufkirchen.—On the 27th the enemy's patrols appeared near Scharding. The enemy left the town occupied, but we have no advice of their being in great numbers on this side of the Inn. The enemy's advancing further on the road to Eszenberg is not apprehended, as the corps under field marshal lieut. Hiller, is advancing down the Inn. On the 27th, the advanced guard under major general count Reduky was in Obernberg, and went down farther towards Scharding. The second corps of reserve was near Altheim, and the rest of the army near Wing, all advancing in such a manner that a battle was expected.—From the grand army intelligence has been received of the 26th April. On the 24th the army marched through Bruck and Cham, without being molested by the enemy. His imperial highness the archduke Generalissimo took an advantageous position behind the river Regen. Here the 1st and 2d corps of the army, who had not at all suffered, joined the rest. In this position his imperial highness intends to let the troops rest for some days, being tired by such long conflicts, then to counteract the enemy's movements in all directions, and avail himself of such opportunities as may offer for farther enterprize. When the reports came away, the army had been two days in the camp of Cham without any enemy's appearing. Money and ammunition has been sent to Tyrol. Field-marshal Chasteller has advanced from Inspruck to Trent, where, by certain advices, a small corps of Frenchmen and Bavarians is hemmed in. The army in Italy has crossed the Piava; and field-marshal Chasteller was making movements from Trent against Italy.

Fourteenth Bulletin.

The fourteenth official Report of the imperial royal army, contains advices respecting the earlier operation of the war from the 19th to the 25th of April, from the head-quarters of the archduke Charles at Katzenberg, near Cham, of the 25th April. This Report amongst other things, says—"On the 20th the archduke Charles advanced to the convent of Kohro, to prevent the junction of the marshal Davoust with the three Bavarian divisions. An engagement took place. Both parties fought with indescribable obstinacy till night, and the loss was great on both sides. Both officers and men behaved like heroes. The generals were always at the head of their troops.—Field-marshal lieutenant prince of Hohenzollern and general prince Louis of Lichtenstein in person seized the colours and rushed amidst a murderous fire into the wood. Night set in, and the fourth corps maintained the field of battle, without being able to gain the heights of Abach. The enemy profited by this advantage, and effected their junction along the Danube with the Bavarian army.—In the battle on the 23d the enemy broke up with sixteen regiments of cavalry at once through Scherling into the plain of Eckmühl. It was not till five o'clock in the afternoon the enemy's horse succeeded in breaking through and routing by their superiority of number, three of our regiments of light horse who had held out bravely. His imperial highness immediately ordered four regiments of cuirassiers to hasten to reinforce them: but the enemy followed up their advantages so suddenly and in such superior numbers, that these too were obliged to give way, and were pursued as far as Traublerg, against Ratisbon. The infantry of the 3d corps were now forced to quit their position, as the enemy had already outwinged them. The passage of the Danube, near Ratisbon, happened at broad day on the 24th, in the face of the enemy, under the protection of our artillery and cavalry, that kept off the enemy's attacks for four hours.—On our part generals prince Rohan and Schiller are wounded. We have lost some batteries, their train and horses having been shot."

General Orders, of the 24th of May.

The days of the 21st and 22d of May will be eternally memorable in the history of the world. The army has given proofs

of patriotism, heroism, and contempt of danger which posterity will admire, and our descendants hold up as specimens of rare and great actions. It furnished the enemy, who had lately boasted of its annihilation, with bloody proofs of its existence. It has surpassed my great expectations, and I feel proud to be its leader. You are in the field of battle the first soldiers of the world; be so also in the spirit of discipline, in the love of order, and in respect to the property of the citizen; then would you be not only the first, but the only army, and your grateful country will bless your deeds. Our beloved monarch has confidence in you, and thanks you with paternal emotions for the security of his throne, and the welfare of your families.—I expect immediately from the commanders of the different corps the most circumstantial relation of what took place with their respective divisions. The country and the sovereign wish to be acquainted with the supporters of their independence, glory, and greatness; their names shall shine in the annals of Austria; till then I can only name and reward those whose distinguished merit is either recognized by the whole army, or whom accident brought nearer to my personal observation.—Prince John of Lichtenstein, general of cavalry, has immortalized his name. This feeling, and my ardent attachment to his person, are pledges of the gratitude of our monarch. I can reward him only by the public expression of my esteem. In the name of his majesty, I nominate as commanders of the order of Theresa, baron Wimpfen, col. Smolla, &c.—The Archduke CHARLES, Generalissimo.

Letter from his Majesty the Emperor and King to the Archduke Charles, Generalissimo.

"Dear brother Charles; I did, it is true, yesterday express to you in person, my warmest thanks for the glorious victory you have gained; but this is not sufficient for my heart. I say it now, and I shall repeat it on every occasion, because I, whom divine providence made the sovereign of a great monarchy, am utterly unable to reward you, my dear brother, your companions in arms, and my brave army, according to your deserts. It was reserved for you, the brother of my heart, the prime support of my throne, to interrupt, for the first time these fifteen years, the good fortune of the adversary. You are the saviour of the country, which, as well as the monarch, will eternally thank and bless you.

"With deep sensibility I yesterday observed the elevated courage and enthusiasm of the troops, and their manly resolution to assure by victory the independence of the monarchy. It was the sweetest moment of my life: a rare and heart-enlivening spectacle, and one which can never be eradicated from my mind. I beg you, dear brother, to declare this to my brave army, and to do every thing to preserve this rare spirit among them."

SPANISH REVOLUTION.—*Letter to the Vice-President of the Supreme Central Junta, dated Merida, 12th April 1809.*

EXCELLENT SIGNOR.—The greater number of the provinces of Spain have sufficiently suffered from the horrible effects of war and conquest, and the rest are threatened with the same calamities. The melancholy events of the 27th and 28th of March, affecting the armies of generals Urbina and Cuesta, have filled with consternation and alarm those honourable Spaniards who cannot contemplate without the most poignant grief the utter desolation of our beloved country. These persons have implored the King to alleviate the distresses of such of the provinces as are occupied by French troops, and to avoid them in those which are not yet in their possession.—His majesty has attended to their prayers, and in consequence has ordered me to repair to this city, to announce his compliance to your excellency, authorising me at the same time to consult the best means of fulfilling his wishes with such Deputy or Deputies as the Supreme Central Junta shall think fit to appoint.—I cannot suppose that either your excellency or the Central Junta will refuse to take this step, on which the salvation of Andalusia and the happiness of the whole kingdom depends. The business is most important in its character, and most urgent in the present circumstances, and on that account it would be improper that it should be conducted in writing, which is

likely to occasion so many disputes, irregularities, and doubts, and which may be avoided completely by personal conference. On this ground I hope, from your honour and patriotism, and from that of the Junta, that you will name such person or persons to enter on the conference with me, with whom I will agree as to the place of interview.—God preserve you, &c. JOAQUIM MARIA SOTELO.

Answer, addressed to General Cuesta.

EXCELLENT SIGNOR.—On the receipt of the letter written by Don Joaquim Maria Sotelo to the Vice-President, and the insidious proposition on the part of the French government therein contained, the Supreme Central Junta has not forgotten the sacred character with which it is invested, and the solemn oaths it has taken in concurrence with the wishes of the whole Spanish nation. If Sotelo be the bearer of powers sufficiently extensive to treat for the restitution of our beloved King, and for the evacuation of our territory by the French troops instantly, let him publish them in the usual form adopted by states, and they will be announced to our allies. The Junta cannot neglect the employment of the powers conceded to it by the public will, but they have no authority to listen to any treaty, or terminate any transaction, which is not founded on the basis of eternal justice. Any other principle of negotiation, without benefiting the empire, would only tend to degrade the Junta, which has entered into the most awful engagement to bury itself beneath the ruins of the monarchy, rather than lend itself to any proposition which shall diminish the honour and independence of the Spanish people. His majesty desires that your excellency would state these sentiments to Sotelo, and by the royal order I communicate them to your excellency for your instruction and compliance. God preserve you.—(Signed)

MARTIN DE GARAY.



END OF VOL. XV.

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